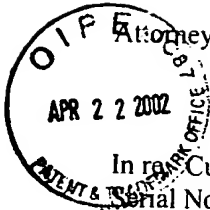


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Attorney Docket No. 5051.511

PATENT

Handwritten initials and date: 4/15/02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Cuomo et al.
Serial No.: 09/826,431

Examiner: My-Chau T. Tran
Group Art Unit: 1645

Filed: April 4, 2001

For: *ABSORBING AND NON-ABSORBING SURFACES FOR BIOLOGICAL MATERIALS*

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April 15, 2002

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AMENDMENT

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

In response to the Office Action mailed November 15, 2001, please make the following amendments. A copy of the amendments with the changes shown is attached entitled "VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE."

In the claims:

Please amend the following claims.

1. (Amended) A substrate for use in the adsorption and non-adsorption of biomolecules and having a surface with at least one electrophilic or nucleophilic functional group attached thereto, said substrate having a coating positioned thereon, the coating comprising a chemically crosslinked material comprising elements selected from the group consisting of (1) M, O, C, H, and N; wherein M is a metal selected from the group consisting of silicon, titanium, tantalum, germanium, boron, zirconium, aluminum, hafnium and yttrium; (2) M, O, H, and N wherein M is defined above, (3) C; (4) O, C, H, and N; and (5) M or C, and one of O, H, or N, wherein the chemically crosslinked material is terminated with the at least one electrophilic or nucleophilic functional group.

3. (Amended) The substrate according to Claim 2, wherein the chemically crosslinked material comprises from about 30 to about 60 percent carbon and from about 10 to about 40 percent silicon.

17. (Amended) The substrate according to Claim 1, wherein the coating has a thickness between about 200 nanometers to about 400 nanometers.

Please cancel claims 21 - 32 without prejudice.

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